A plan to shortchange penny hoarders

By Roger Boye

THE U. S. Mint will sell 1974-S [made in San Francis-co] cents to collectors via the mail because coin hoarders have artificially driven up the price of the cent to collectors.

The San Francisco Mint will produce at least 400 million cents in 1974, many more than enough to make the coin a common one to collectors. However, last month, an uncirculated 1974-S sold for as much as 25 cents.

The coin is victim of "wild speculation," according to Mary Brooks, director of the U. S. Mint. Many of the 1974-S cents distributed to banks have found their way into the hands of hoarders who have succeeded in increasing the price of a common coin to collectors. Collectors, unable

August the details of the sale of the cents thru the mail. The sale will short-circuit efforts of the hoarders to artificially push up the price

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to find the coin in circulation, must buy them at high prices from dealers.

Claiming she is looking out for the little guy, Mrs. Brooks said she will announce in midsince collectors will be able to order the cents directly from the Mint.

Persons interested in ordering the uncirculated 1974-S cents should write the Bureau of the Mint, 55 Mint St., San Francisco, Cal. 94175. Persons who buy Mint offerings regularly will receive prepunched ordering cards.

LAST WEEK, the U. S. Mint began accepting orders for uncirculated Eisenhower dollars. Orders are limited to five coins a person at the price of \$3 a coin.

The coins, made especially for collectors, contain 40 per cent silver. Orders should be sent to the San Francisco address above. Payment by check or money order, payable to the Bureau of the Mint, must accompany the order.